

REMARKS

The allowance of claims 2-12 is noted.

The Examiner is thanked for the courtesy of the personal interview conducted with the undersigned on December 7, 2004. His Interview Summary accurately reflects the discussion at the interview.

As pointed out by the undersigned, applicants traverse the rejection of claims 1 and 3-23 as being unpatentable over JP '976 in view of Kaneko *et al.* under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

As discussed at said personal interview, the present invention is directed to, among other things, a means for detecting faults in an estimated magnetic pole position and not, as disclosed in the JP '976 document, to a circuit or means for detecting fault on a magnetic pole position detector which directly measures the pole position. That is, the latter prior art teaching involves the use of a position detector which the apparatus of the present invention avoids but nevertheless is able to detect an estimated pole position fault. Although no agreement was reached at said personal interview, the undersigned believes that this essential difference is understood and thus is the basis for the Examiner's expressed desire to obtain a translation of the JP '976 document.


Accordingly, early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #056205.50302).

Respectfully submitted,

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